	d For Relass F2002/07/1/12/17/CHAHRD P80-00809 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY	REPORT NO.	25X
	INFORMATION REPORT		25X
	SECRET	DATE DISTR. 13 Mar 52	25^
COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia		÷. :
SUBJECT	Czech SDD (Skola Dustojnickeho DorostuOfficers' School for Youth)	NO. OF PAGES 3	
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· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		which is being	
	 The reorganization of the Czechoplovak Army, fashioned after the Soviet pattern, was and st 	ill is	
	accompanied by extensive purges in the militar resulted in a critical shortage of politic lly	r reliable	
	cadres of regular army officers. In order to mumber of officer personnel as quickly as poss	sible, the CSR	
	regime has established special short-term offi	icer replace- . The gradustes	•
	of these courses or schools, which are known a Dustojnickeho Dorostu - Officers' School for I	as SDD (Skola	
	eligible for further military training in the	regular	
	officers' school.		
	SDD accepts yout's between 17 and 20 years of important prerequisite for candidacy is politi	ical reliability.	
	A candidate must be "socialistically minded", son of a Communist Party member, or he must p	rove his origin	4
	from the working class and the socialistic le parents. An applicant shows parents were for	eanings of his	
	and religiously inclined would be a rare exce		
	considered as a prospective candidate. attended one of the meetings of the SCM (Czec	hoslovak Youth	25>
	Association) at the Zilina QM School, I heard that 20% of the candidates accepted for the S	DD throughout	
	the CSR are members of the Communist Party.	Most of the to become	
	party members prior to May 1948 when membersh to youths, even those only 15 years of age.	ip was wide open	
	candidates were members of the SCM (Svaz Cesk CLASSIFICATION SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION	oslovenske	
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Mindeze - Czechoslovak Youth Association) which is a communist organization. Other candidates were compelled to become members of SOM during their course of study at SDD. Previous education required of an SDD candidate varies greatly, and depends on his political reliability, class origin, and abilities. In general, the candidates are graduates of schools equivalent to the US junior high school. About 10% of the candidates are graduates of elementary schools plus some trade school education.

- 3. The length of the SDD course is equivalent to one year of military service and is credited as such. The school year begins on 1 September and ends between 20 and 25 August of the following year, with a short vacation period sometime during the year.
- 4. During the SDD change there are two examinations. The midyear exam takes pince in late February and the final exam on or about 20 August. These examinations are more or less of a perfunctory nature since the students are graded daily (even on the merit of a very brief question and answer) so that the instructor is in a position to evaluate each student constantly without bonefit of an examination.
- 5. Prior to August 1951 the graduates of SDD were merely considered to be candidates for one of the military schools, but, as of August 1951, the graduates were appointed NCOs to give them an incentive to further pursue their military careers. As NCOs the SDD graduates are assigned to different military schools according to their particular abilities, grades, and physical fitness. The Air Force schools, for which candidates must be of unquestionable political reliability, in excellent health, and have high grades. The given top priority among the military schools. About five to seven per cent of those graduates who had a previous secondary education and who completed SDD in excellent standing are usually assigned to universities and technological universities for further study.
- 6. Usually two to three per cent of the students prove to be below the expected level in mental ability, and are failed either at the mid-term or final examinations. A student who is found to be incligible for further study after either examination, is obliged to join the Army and serve an additional period of time in order to complete the required term of two years of service. If such a student is of draft age, he is required to join an assigned unit without delay. If he is less than 20 years of age, he is given the alternatives of voluntarily serving the rest of his two year term of service, or being dismissed and wait until his class is called into service, and then have that period of time he spent at the school credited toward part of his two year term of service. In case the student has elected to be discharged and await his call to service, providing that he is honorably discharged from SDD and his political reliability is sound, he returns to his civilian occupation and his future remains unimperilled. If the student is discharged for political unreliability however, the dismissal may gravely affect his civilian status. That is, if his political mindemeanor is found to be of light degree, the politics section of the school would invariably decide that the candidate could not be a fully reliable officer and he would be discharged; in spite of the blemism on his political reliability record, the student is allowed.

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molested by the place accurity organization. If, on her other hand, the candidate was disminsed because he committed a more serious offense against the security regulations of the state, such as severely criticizing the ideology of the Communist Party or its present policy, or if he had concealed some pertinent offense which he had committed prior to his entry into SDD, he has a harder lot. He would be dishonorably discharged, his cadre file would be forwarded to his birthplace and the local bracch of the Communist Party would decide his fate. He is subjected to trial and usually deprived of the right to choose his civilian occupation. He must thereafter accept any type of work assigned to him by the labor department; this may be in a stone quarry, foundry, or coal mine, where he is given the most unpleasant, difficult, and dangerous tasks at hand. In addition, this perpetrator of "ideological deviation" is required to serve sufficient time in the army to complete the prescribed two-year tour of duty. Such cases occurred rarely because the candidates for SDD were thoroughly represend and checked prior to admission to the schools.

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